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Deputy Director For Requirements and Evaluation
Intelligence Community Staff
Washington, D.C. 20505

13 SEP 1988

CMTE 8-SR

ICS-6114-88
12 September 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: DDR&E Ad Hoc Steering Group

SUBJECT: The 1988 Edition of U.S. Foreign Intelligence Requirements
Categories and Priorities (FIRCAP)

1. Attached for your information and use is a copy of the 1988 edition of the DCI's guidance for substantive intelligence priorities--the FIRCAP. In concept and format, it is essentially the same as previous editions. The special purpose of this 1988 issuance is to make available to intelligence consumers and the Intelligence Community the reorganized military and S&T categories, and all of the associated and new priorities, developed by the Community over the past year or so. [redacted]

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2. This document, mandated by DCID 1/2 and prepared under the auspices of the DCI's Foreign Intelligence Priorities Committee (FIPC), provides an important framework and reference point for the US foreign intelligence effort. Moreover, the document's importance is growing as the foreign intelligence target becomes more diffuse and more difficult and intelligence resources become leaner. Accordingly, I believe we should do everything we can to improve understanding and use of the top-level priorities guidance provided in the FIRCAP. [redacted]

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3. The relationship of the FIRCAP to the National Intelligence Topics (NITs) and the Compendium of Future Intelligence Requirements (COFIR) is outlined on pages 1-5. Of course, as discussed at our meeting on 4 August 1988, our ongoing review of the top-level requirements structure may result in changes in this relationship. However, in any new structure it is clear that an essential element will be a top-level statement of priorities similar, and likely identical, to that contained in the FIRCAP. [redacted]

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4. If you have any questions or comments on the document or the process by which the categories and priorities are maintained, please call [redacted] the Chairman of the FIPC, [redacted]

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[redacted]
Douglas George

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Attachment:
1988 edition of FIRCAP

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